



Avondale
ARIZONA

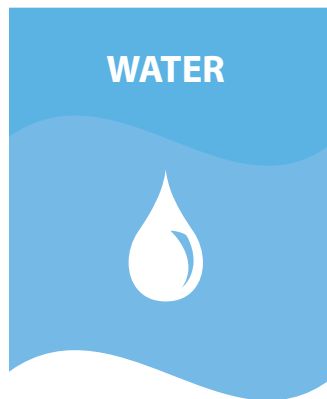


2019 MUNICIPAL
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT



In 2014, City Council and Mayor Kenn Weise approved the Municipal Sustainability Plan (MSP) which established the City of Avondale's sustainability goals. The MSP outlines actions that integrate our economy, quality of life for our residents, and our environment to ensure that future generations are able to survive and thrive. This progress report highlights the City of Avondale's successes in the eleven categories listed in the MSP. The City will continue to aggressively implement the MSP to achieve our goals and will provide progress reports on our future successes.

Unless otherwise noted, accomplishments are based on calendar years 2013-2018.



WATER

- ▶ Even with residential and industrial growth, the City maintains a balance between water demand and water recharged into the aquifer through the City's conservation efforts.
- ▶ City properties reduced water consumption by 2% last year, saving 14,177,000 gallons, enough water for 131 households.
- ▶ All applicable City purchases of water fixtures meet EPA WaterSense standards.
- ▶ The City's Water Conservation program has conducted 88 classes, teaching over 1500 residents.



AIR QUALITY

- ▶ The City issued 108 Special Event permits requiring dust control measures to be implemented.
- ▶ City staff adhere to dust control rules and receive certification through the Maricopa County Air Quality Department.
- ▶ City personnel receive notifications regarding High Pollution Advisory days.
- ▶ Residents receive air quality information in the RAVE Review Magazine and via the City website.



BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE

- ▶ In 2017, the City performed audits on several City-owned buildings resulting in efficiency improvements estimated to save 1,796,927 kWh of energy annually.
- ▶ To reduce pesticides, the City uses Integrative Pest Management (IPM) at City campuses. IPM is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on prevention, monitoring and control through cultural, biological and structural strategies.



COMMUNITY & ENGAGEMENT

- ▶ Community outreach at 106 sustainability events, engaged nearly 20,000 people.
- ▶ The Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Commission met a total of 10 times in 2018.
- ▶ Avondale Fire & Medical hosted 12 Child and Babysitting Safety Workshops teaching 78 teens CPR, First Aid Basics, and Emergency Preparedness.
- ▶ Since 2014, the Citizen Police Academy has graduated 95 West Valley residents.
- ▶ Since 2015, the Avondale Police Explorer Program has graduated 30 high school students.

ECONOMY



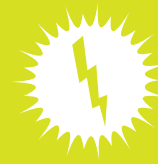
- ▶ Avondale has experienced a 12% growth in new employment opportunities (based on 2011 census).
- ▶ Since 2016, 647 new home permits have been issued.
- ▶ Our commercial space vacancy rate has declined by 52 percent.
- ▶ The City has certified 10 businesses in the Green Business Program since 2018.
- ▶ In 2017, Avondale partnered with Local First Arizona to launch Fuerza Local, a six-month business accelerator program providing financial literacy and business development skills to under-served micro-entrepreneurs through weekly classes.
- ▶ Since the City adopted a revised infill incentive program in 2012, 43 construction permits were issued revitalizing 10 acres of vacant lots.

ECOSYSTEMS



- ▶ Since the adoption of the Street Tree Master Plan in 2014, two City improvement projects (McDowell Road & Thomas Road) resulted in 146 new trees being planted.
- ▶ Stormwater Pollution Prevention training is provided annually to all City staff and to residents through outreach events, avondaleaz.gov and the RAVE Review magazine.
- ▶ In 2017, the Rainwater Harvesting Garden and the Low Impact Development pilot were installed at the City hall campus to demonstrate how rainwater from a roof can be used to water desert adapted vegetation.
- ▶ In 2018, the City increased clean up events at Tres Rios by 25%.
- ▶ Avondale's new Aquaculture Program is repurposing an inactive city well site to breed, hatch, and raise over 4,000 Tilapia a year to stock and control algae in the Crystal Garden lakes.

ENERGY & CLIMATE



- ▶ In 2015, the City's request to purchase 1,193,468 kWh of clean hydroelectric power from the Hoover Dam was awarded by the Arizona Power Authority at the reduced federal energy rate (annually through 2067).
- ▶ All applicable City purchases of electrical appliances and equipment meet EPA EnergyStar standards.
- ▶ In 2018, Avondale completed a city wide conversion of 7,944 high pressure sodium street lights to energy efficient LED fixtures which are estimated to save 3 million kWh annually.
- ▶ From 2017-2018, City-owned facilities in SRP territory reduced their energy consumption by 2.9%

HEALTH & WELL-BEING



- ▶ In 2018, Parks & Recreation offered 67 outdoor recreation activities in Avondale parks with over 1500 participants.
- ▶ Over 570 children under 5 years received fluoride varnishing and dental screenings at the Care1st Avondale Resource Center in 2018.
- ▶ Health and Wellness programs are offered to City staff continuously throughout the year.
- ▶ The Senior Center provides vital services annually to over 350 participants including 30,000 meals, 25,000 rides, and over 70,000 activities including daily exercise and health and wellness classes.
- ▶ Avondale Fire & Medical distributed 213 car seats and provided 566 child restraint safety education/installation checks free of charge.
- ▶ Partnering with Care1st Avondale Resource Center, Avondale Fire & Medical offered 73 free CPR/First Aid Classes to 572 students.

LAND USE



- ▶ The City has been designated by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for seven years running.
- ▶ The Street Tree Master Plan established a City wide tree canopy goal to increase shade and developed tree maintenance guidelines for City properties.
- ▶ Updated the Floodplain Ordinance in 2018 to meet established FEMA and Arizona Department of Water Resources guidelines.
- ▶ Avondale's first community garden, called the "Garden Patch," is located across from the Civic Center Library.

PROCUREMENT, MATERIALS & WASTE



- ▶ Saved over 20,000 plastic water bottles through the use of water bottle re-filling stations at City facilities.
- ▶ Reduced paper consumption by configuring City computers to default print double sided copies.
- ▶ Since 2015, over 400 tons of green waste were diverted from the landfill and turned into usable compost.
- ▶ The City's "Bring Your Own Device Program" allows staff to bring their own technology to meetings, reducing the need for paper copies.
- ▶ An online procurement system was implemented in 2018. The new system allows the exchange of information digitally reducing the amount of paper printed by the City and printed paper submitted by vendor applicants.

TRANSPORTATION



- ▶ Developed a guideline for complete streets (a street that includes all modes of transportation) which is considered during all City led construction projects.
- ▶ Alternative fuel vehicles (Bio-diesel, CNG, and E85 flex fuel) represent 39% of the total City fleet and minimizes the impact to the environment.
- ▶ Since 2014, the City has resurfaced 736,330 square yards of roads with preservation treatments that include recycled tire rubber saving 2,765 tires from the landfill.
- ▶ In 2017, Zoom Route North came on line adding 19 miles of service.
- ▶ Over the past two years, the City added a total of 4.57 miles of new bike lanes, multi-modal lanes and enhanced bike lane painting.

WHAT'S NEXT



- ▶ Electric Vehicle Planning & Procurement
- ▶ Conduct water efficiency audits to establish a new baseline for City buildings.
- ▶ Park Improvements for Friendship Park & Festival Fields
- ▶ New Bike Lanes
- ▶ Tres Rios Enhancements
- ▶ Low Impact Development Design Guidelines
- ▶ Increase Frequency of Zoom Service
- ▶ Two planned City construction projects are implementing design concepts to ensure future buildings are sustainable for visitors and employees.

CITY OF AVONDALE | DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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